## CLAIMS

- 1. A honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases which has a structure in which:
- a columnar body made of porous ceramic comprises a number of through holes that are placed in parallel with one another in the length direction with wall portion interposed therebetween; and
- a part or all of said wall portion which separates said through holes functions as a filter for collecting particulates wherein
  - a length 1 (mm) of the longest side in a cross section perpendicular to said length direction of said through hole and a length L (mm) in the length direction of said columnar body satisfy the following relationship:  $60 \le L/1 \le 500$ ,

and

a surface roughness Ra (according to JIS B 0601) of the inner wall of said through hole satisfies the following relationship: Ra  $\leq$  100  $\mu m$ .

20

25

15

- 2. A honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases which has a structure in which:
- a columnar body made of porous ceramic comprises a number of through holes that are placed in parallel with one another in the length direction with wall portion interposed therebetween; and

a part or all of said wall portion which separates said through holes functions as a filter for collecting particulates, wherein

- an area S  $(mm^2)$  of the cross section perpendicular to the length direction of said through hole and the length L (mm) in the length direction of said columnar body satisfy the following relationship:  $20 \le L/S \le 400$ , and
- a surface roughness Ra (according to JIS B 0601) of the inner wall of the through hole satisfies the following

relationship: Ra  $\leq$  100  $\mu$ m.

- 3. The honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases according to claim 1 or 2,
- 5 wherein

the surface roughness Ra (according to JIS B 0601) of the inner wall of the through hole satisfies the following relationship: 1.0  $\mu m \le Ra \le 100 \ \mu m$ .

10 4. The honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases according to claim 1, 2 or 3,

wherein

the columnar body is constituted by combining a plurality of rectangular columnar porous ceramic members through adhesive layer, each of said columnar porous ceramic member comprising a number of through holes that are placed in parallel with one another in the length direction with partition wall interposed therebetween.

5. The honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases according to claim 1, 2, 3 or 4,

wherein

a catalyst is supported thereon.

25 6. An exhaust gas purifying device comprising:

a casing connected to an exhaust gas passage of an internal combustion engine; and

the honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 and heating means, which are equipped inside said casing.

wherein

30

35

upon carrying out a regenerating process for said honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases, gases heated by the heating means are flown into the honeycomb filter for purifying exhaust gases under conditions that: a flow-in rate is 0.3 m/sec or more:

and an oxygen concentration is 6% or more.